

## Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE.

Sept. 21, 1885.

Hon. Saml. M. Hoop }  
Superintendent, }

Sir:

In compliance with your request, I submit herewith, reduced to writing, such recollections of the matter of the disappearance of a certain book of accts, or memoranda, from the custody of the Treasurer of the Mint, in 1872, as present themselves definitely to me after the lapse of time.

During an investigation into certain charges preferred against the Director Ex-Gov. Pollock, and the Comr. A. Gordon Snowden, Esq., (which inquiry was held by Hon. R. W. Taylor, Controller, representing the Secretary of the Treasury), Treasurer of the Mint George Eyster, Esq., deposited with me, his Cashier, a package, represented by him to be a book containing certain of his accts



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SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE.

, 1883

as well as memoranda relating to Essay Coins, sales of trocops, &c etna. He said that the book was valuable as a record, not only to himself as Treasurer of the Mint, but to his predecessors; and he cautioned me not to deliver it to any unauthorized person.

This package was placed in my vault, and then kept untouched and unopened for some little time. The Treasurer's bookkeeper, Mr. Levi. R. Croperthwaite, came to me and reclaimed the package, or book, saying that it was required for reference by the Director Mr. Pollock. The book was therefore delivered to Mr. Croperthwaite under the impression that the bookkeeper was an authorized person to demand access to the accounts. Subsequently, and during the progress of the investigation referred to, Mr. Eyster



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sent to my office for "the book," and being informed that it had been delivered to the bookkeeper sought him for information.

Mr. Eyster was much distressed at the disappearance of the book. He said that it contained the data upon which certain charges of irregular administration were based, and that its loss might defeat the object of the inquiry.

Some months later I was shown a book by Director Pollock, alleged to be the missing book. He very earnestly denied that the Treasury had any concern with the matter therein; that it contained only memoranda personal to himself, as Director, and that it should never leave his custody again.

I have restricted myself, as nearly as possible,



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SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE.

, 1888

to what I was personally cognizant of, leaving to Mr. Cropper the task of explaining his demand for the book, to whom he delivered it, and what took place between him and both the Treasurer and Director.

I do not suppose any allusion to the \$25,000 in gold found in excess in the bullion fund, with shortages equivalent in the Ordinary & Minor Groups sets, can be germane to this inquiry into the missing book. I am always ready to explain anything relating to accounts in this office, and if necessary, as bearing upon the present inquiry, can give the result of the quest into the distempered accounts of my predecessor.

Respectfully

W. H. Cobb  
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Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,

Sept. 21, 1885.

~~Dr. J. B. Eyster~~  
~~Per J. B. Eyster~~

~~Superintendent.~~

M. H. Cobb

Relative to missing  
Book of J. B. Eyster.



No. of Enclosures, 1

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,  
Superintendent's Office,  
September 21, 1885

Hon. Danl. M. Fox  
Superintendent

Sir:

In compliance with your request, I submit herewith, reduced to writing, such recollections of the matter of the disappearance of a certain book of accts., or memoranda, from the custody of the Treasurer of the Mint, in 1872, as present themselves definitely to me after the lapse of time.

During an investigation into certain charges preferred against the Director Ex. Gov. Pollock, and the Coiner, A. Loudon Snowden, Esq., (which inquiry was held by Hon. R.W. Tailyer, Controller, representing the Secretary of the Treasury), Treasurer of the Mint George Eyster, Esq., deposited with me, his Cashier, a package, represented by him to be a book containing certain of his accts. as well as memoranda relative to Assay Coins, sales of sweeps, et cetera. He said that the book was valuable as a record, not only to himself as Treasurer of the Mint, but to his predecessors; and he cautioned me not to deliver it to any unauthorized person.

This package was placed in my vault, and there kept untouched and removed for some little time. The Treasurer's book keeper, Mr. Levi R. Cowperthwaite, came to me and reclaimed the package, or book, saying that it was required for reference by the Director Mr. Pollock. The book was therefore delivered to Mr. Cowperthwaite under the impression that the book keeper was an authorized person to demand access to the accounts. Subsequently, and during the progress of the investigation referred to Mr. Eyster sent to my office for "the book", and being informed that it had been delivered to the book keeper sought him for information.

Mr. Eyster was much distressed at the disappearance of the book. He said that it contained the data upon which certain charges of irregular administration were based, and that its loss might defeat the object of the inquiry.

Some months later I was shown a book by Director Pollock, alleged to be the missing book. He very earnestly desired that the Treasurer had any concern with the matter therein; that it contained only memoranda personal to himself, as Director, and that it should never leave his custody again.

I have restricted myself, as nearly as possible, to what I was personally cognizant of, leaving to Mr. Cowperthwaite the task of explaining his demand for the book, to whom he delivered it, and what took place between him and both the Treasurer and Director.

I do not suppose any allusion to the \$25,000 in gold found in excess in the bullion fund, with shortage equivalent in the Ordinary & Minor Coinage accts. can be germane to this inquiry into the missing book. I am always ready to explain anything relating to accounts in this office,

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Respectfully,  
M.H. Cobb  
Cash.